

## Among Our Exchanges.

The impressive M. M. Lewey in last week's edition of the Florida Sentinel began a series of Christmas numbers.

Seemingly, it is just as easy for the Florida Sentinel to appear in four Christmas installments as it is for the average paper to appear on time.

The up-to-date and well edited Reformer, came out dressed in the colors of its country, red, white and blue. It was up-to-date and interesting, and you can't mark that out.

The Colored American published in Washington, D. C. is full up to the brim this week with race news. This is a great paper, having no equal in this country.—The Oil City Afro-American.

The Rock Hill (S. C.) Messenger had a nice eight page Christmas edition. It was a neat affair and suggested that Editor White understood how to run a paper. Why not keep it that size, Mr. Editor.

The Christian Organizer's Christmas number was a "thing of beauty, a joy forever." If the people whom this sheet represents do not appreciate such journalistic spirit, then they should have no such efforts put forth around them.

Editor Lewis gave his readers of the Daily Record notice of a out of the way step in the following little quickstep:

On tomorrow we will give our readers a sketch of Editor E. E. Cooper with his cut, and they will have the opportunity of seeing the picture of and reading something about one of the greatest newspaper men of the race.

### A MISTAKE.

The Republican Guide in giving the officers of the National Negro Business League seemingly got them mixed up with the council officers. In giving the names of the executive committee it included Bishop Walters, Col. Pledger, Cyrus Field Adams, J. R. A. Crossland, Ernest Lyon and Alex. L. Manley. None of these gentlemen are even identified with the league, were not in attendance at Boston. The executive committee is composed of the following gentlemen and no one else has been added since the election: T. Thomas Fortune, Booker T. Washington, E. E. Cooper, Gilbert Q. Harris, Louis F. Baldwin, H. H. Jones, Isaiah T. Montgomery and W. R. Pettiford. This is the executive committee. The editor of the Guide must pay attention to such matters and report them correctly.

They say down in Texas that Editor Fortune is making cigars, when not engaged in journalistic work. Well, suppose he is! It is certainly nothing to his discredit. It is much better for the editor of a race journal to dig ditches during his spare moments, and be able to express his opinions freely and fearlessly, than to live a life of luxury, owned body and soul by some local political boss or machine. Editor Fortune (if it be true that he is making cigars) should be commended for his industry and independence. The man who works to properly educate and support those dependent upon him without cringing, fawning and begging favors, is the sort of man who is going to make the race powerful and respected.

The Odd Fellows Journal editorially says that T. Thomas Fortune is making cigars down in Texas. If it is true, it is no discredit to him nor the race. But if they are political cigars for himself only it is a disgrace.—Pittsburg Independent.

We cannot get the meaning of the above. We have been reading some-

thing about Mr. Fortune and cigars for some time. Now Brothers Asbury and Fortune will have to explain.

The Homestead Pennsylvania correspondent of The Republican Guide must have been asleep for some few years. In the notes and comments in the Guide of December 22nd, the correspondent has the following interesting note:

It has been announced that Mrs. B. K. Bruce will in the future at the head of the Women's Department of Tuskegee Institute, thereby succeeding Mrs. Booker Washington and it certainly will add additional lustre to the brilliant corps of instructors of that institution. Mrs. Bruce has long been identified with the material advancement of the race, and by her acceptance of the above position, further testifies her innate love for the Afro-American.

Why Mrs. Bruce has been lady principal of the Tuskegee Institute since 1899. Mrs. Booker Washington has not been lady principal of the Tuskegee since 1892. What ails the Guide and its staff? Brother Collett don't let your devil run away with the manuscript!

### Musical Notes.

New York's most prominent pianist and organist Mme. Montgomery, died suddenly a few days ago.

Williams and Walker's show is out of quarantine and on the road again playing to large audiences.

The Christmas song service by the Metropolitan choir was largely attended, and up to the usual standard. Mrs. Sadie Weston and Miss Maggie Wilson are pronounced acquisitions.

The Metropolitan A. M. E. Sunday School will have Christmas exercises on Sunday evening the 30th inst. The choruses will be accompanied by an orchestra, and the exercises will be exceptionally good.

The Amphions sang in Baltimore Friday night, in Trinity church, of which Rev. J. W. Beckett, who was formerly of the Metropolitan church here, is pastor. Later during the season they will give a concert and reception in the largest hall available in Baltimore.

The Asbury choir has begun preparations for Easter services. They will render a special cantata appropriate to the occasion. Admission to the church will be by card only, as the seating capacity is limited. Many persons were unable to gain admission at their last song service. Christmas music will be given at the morning service tomorrow.

### Tuskegee (Ala.) Notes.

Mayor Samuel L. Jones of Toledo, O., accompanied by the president of the City Council, were very interesting visitors of Tuskegee Tuesday of this week. The Christmas season was observed in the usual manner at Tuskegee. It was a merry one for all concerned. The ninth annual session of the Tuskegee Negro Conference will be held Wednesday, February 20, 1901. It is hoped that this session will prove the most profitable ever held.

Mr. Wm. G. Taylor, a young baritone of Cleveland, O., is spending the holidays in the city, the guest of Mr. Clarence C. White.

## THE GRAND FOUNTAIN.

# United Order of True Reformers.

ORGANIZED January 1, 1881.

Office 604, 606 and 608 N. 2nd St., - - Richmond, Va.

An order devoted to the interests of its members, both in their home and business relations. We offer you an opportunity for gilt edged business investment, in enterprises owned and controlled by the Order and managed by colored men, who are members of the Order.

If you are sound in health and mind, of good moral character, not younger than three (3) years nor older than sixty (60) you are eligible to membership. There are two Fountains, the Subordinate and the Rosebud.

### SUBORDINATE FOUNTAINS.

To join the Subordinate Fountain you must be between 14 and 16 years of age. You pay \$4.60 to \$6.60 (according to age) as joining fee. If you live in the country you pay 35 cents per month as dues; if in the city, 50 cents per month. You pay as taxes 80 cents per month.

As Sick Benefits you receive from \$6.00 to \$9.00 per month, in weekly payments.

As Death Benefit, your family receives \$75.00 if you die within a year. After one year the Death Benefit is \$125.00.

### ROSEBUD FOUNTAINS.

To join the Rosebud Fountain you must be between 8 and 14 years of age. You pay \$1.00, either cash or by installments. The monthly dues are either 15 or 25 cents as Fountains may decide. The annual tax is 10 cents. You receive as Sick Benefit from \$1.50 to \$4.00 per month, in weekly payments.

As Death Benefit, your family will be paid \$24.50 if you die within a year. After one year the Death Benefit is \$37.

In the INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, there are Three (3) Classes:—Class B, Class E, and Class M. All dues are payable annually or quarterly.

In Class B, the age limit is 14 to 60 years. Fee, \$2.50 to \$4.25. Annual dues, \$4.75 to \$7.60. The Certificate is valued first year at from \$100 to \$33. After one year, its value is \$200 to \$65.

In Class E, the age limit is 14 to 55 years. Fee, \$5 to \$6.50. Annual dues, \$9.50 to \$11.40. The Certificate is valued first year at from \$250 to \$175. After one year its value is \$500 to \$800.

In Class M, the age limit is 14 to 50 years. Fee \$11 to \$13.50. Annual dues, \$21 to \$25. The certificate is valued from date of issue at from \$1,000 to \$700.

You are entitled to a Life Membership in either of the Fountains or in Class B and E upon purchase of the required amount of Bank stock, which pays a dividend annually of 20 per cent.

The Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers has paid up to July 29, 1900, a total of \$782 Death Benefits, with a grand total of \$521,264.75, over HALF MILLION DOLLARS.

THE BANK.—In our Savings Bank the Order has a sound and flourishing institution that is a credit not only to the Order but to the race as well. It began business April 3, 1889. The capital stock is \$100,000. The business is the same as that of any other regularly constituted bank, and is surrounded by the same safeguards. The stock sells for \$5.00 a share to members, and pays 20 per cent. dividends. Both time and demand deposits are received and 4 per cent. interest is paid on time deposits. The following is a copy of the Cashier's report to Auditor of Public Accounts of Virginia close of business Sept., 5, 1900 and shows its flourishing condition:—

RESOURCES.		LIABILITIES.	
Loans and discounts .....	\$8,272 80	Capital stock paid in .....	88,125 00
Other stock, bonds and mortgages .....	164,423 83	Surplus fund .....	80,957 00
Due from National Banks ...	48,383 22	Undivided profits .....	6,896 00
Banking House .....	14,000 00	Demand certificate of deposit .....	98,786 00
Other real estates .....	99,588 00	Time certificates of deposit .....	118,424 00
Furniture and Fixtures .....	6,850 00		
Current expenses and taxes paid .....	1,388 99	Total .....	391,120 00
Specie, nickels and cents ...	12,399 80		
Paper currency .....	35,820 00		
Total .....	391,120 84		

The Reformer's Grocery and Feed Store is located at 501 North Sixth St. Richmond, Va., and members of the Order and the public generally are saved 20 per cent. on the cost of food products.

THE REFORMER is the newspaper published by the order from its own office in Richmond, Va. It stands for the voice of the people, representing cooperation and combination of the race and is the Beacon Light, the Headlight, the General Messenger and the General Agent of the Brotherhood. It is \$1.00 per year. A well equipped job office bids for the work of the people, which is turned out in first class style and at low prices.

Six miles from Richmond, in Henrico County, Va., the Order has purchased 684 acres of land, and established thereon an "Old Folk's Home." With unexampled liberality and broad-minded generosity, the Order does not limit entrance to this home to its members alone, nor even to members' families, but the doors are opened to the aged and decrepit of the whole race, regardless of their residence or connections. The Order makes itself the trustee for this glorious charity, and calls upon the whole people, black and white, North, East, South and West to assist by their contribution the carrying out of this praiseworthy idea. April 3rd of each year is set apart as a Grand Rally Day for the Home. Contributions can be forwarded to the cashier of the Reformer's Savings Bank, who will send receipt for same and account for it to The Grand Fountain.

Members of the Order and the public, when visiting Richmond, Va., are invited to stop at The Hotel Reformer, 900 North Sixth St. It is in a pleasant and desirable location. Service is of the best and rates are reasonable.

The Real Estate Department manages and controls all property interests of the Order. The Order now owns 13 buildings, 4 farms, 4 dwellings, 1 hotel with a fee simple value of \$122,500. In addition to these the Order leases buildings.

For any further information, address

W. L. TAYLOR, G. W. Master,

W. P. BURRELL, G. W. Secretary.